



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Committee Bill No. 5010**

LCO No. 5127

\*05127HB05010ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

**AN ACT CONCERNING ANIMALS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Agriculture  
2       shall, not later than January 1, 2006, report, in accordance with section  
3       11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the  
4       General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to agriculture  
5       regarding the Department of Agriculture's enforcement of current laws  
6       regarding the sale of dogs under the age of one year.

7       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) For purposes of this  
8       section "traveling exhibition" means a display, including, but not  
9       limited to, an exhibit, act, circus, public show, trade show,  
10      photographic opportunity, carnival, parade, petting zoo or zoo, that  
11      has no permanent legal residence or sites in this state or remains  
12      continuously at one location within this state for a period of less than  
13      sixty days.

14      (b) There is established an elephant inspection account, which shall  
15      be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund and which  
16      shall be financed by fees pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

17 (c) Not later than thirty days prior to entering the state, a person  
18 bringing an elephant into the state as part of a traveling exhibition  
19 shall notify the Commissioner of Agriculture by filing an itinerary for  
20 the traveling exhibition, which itinerary shall be accompanied by a fee  
21 of seventy-five dollars. Such person shall provide a copy of such  
22 itinerary to each municipality that will host the subject traveling  
23 exhibition. Such person shall notify the commissioner if there are  
24 necessary updates to such itinerary. Persons who fail to file or update  
25 an itinerary shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars.

26 (d) A person bringing an elephant into the state as part of a  
27 traveling exhibition shall not (1) use any device that emits an electrical  
28 current on an elephant, or (2) use a hooked instrument in a manner  
29 that causes damage, scaring or breakage of the elephant's skin. Persons  
30 who violate the provisions of this subsection shall be fined not more  
31 than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year, or  
32 both.

33 (e) A state or municipal animal control officer, a veterinarian  
34 employed by the state, or a licensed veterinarian, at the direction of the  
35 Commissioner of Agriculture, may, at a reasonable time, enter an area  
36 where an elephant is kept with a traveling exhibition and inspect for  
37 compliance with this section and regulations adopted pursuant to this  
38 section. A person employed by the traveling exhibition who is  
39 responsible for the care of the elephant shall assist the person  
40 performing the inspection pursuant to this section as needed.

41 (f) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall adopt regulations, in  
42 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to  
43 prevent the abuse and mistreatment of elephants in traveling  
44 exhibitions.

45 (g) Nothing in this section shall preclude an action pursuant to  
46 section 53-247 of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require the Commissioner of Agriculture to submit a report regarding the enforcement of current laws pertaining to the sale of dogs under the age of one year and to establish an inspection and penalty scheme to prevent the mistreatment of elephants by traveling exhibitions.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors:   SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.  
                      REP. MANTILLA, 4th Dist.; SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35th Dist.  
                      SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.

H.B. 5010